

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An injection-moulded plastic flange for mounting accessories on a thermoplastic hollow body, capable of closing off, in a sealed manner, an opening cut into the wall of this hollow body, the said flange having a thread on its periphery.
2. (Currently amended) The flange according to claim 1, ~~which is capable of receiving in combination with~~ a ring for holding its assembly with the hollow body in place.
3. (Original) The flange according to claim 1, wherein the plastic used to make it has a low permeability to gases and liquids.
4. (Previously presented) The flange according to claim 1, wherein the plastic is selected from the group consisting of polyacetals, polyamides, polyesters and polyvinylidene halides.
5. (Currently amended) The flange according to claim 1, in combination with a hollow body, and wherein the hollow body is a fuel tank for a motor vehicle.
6. (Currently amended) The ~~flange~~ combination according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5, which has mounted on it at least one accessory of a fuel tank, selected from the group consisting of a pump module, a volume gauge, a pipette connected to a line for the inflow or outflow of liquid and/or gaseous fuel, a connector and an electrical cable.
7. (Currently amended) The ~~flange~~ combination according to ~~Claim~~ claim 5, wherein the fuel tank consists of at least two shells made of a multilayer thermoplastic, the shells being welded to one another.
8. (Currently amended) ~~A fuel tank for a motor vehicle,~~ The combination according to claim 5 which has at least one accessory mounted on ~~an accessory-mounting~~ the flange according to Claim 5.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Withdrawn) A process for manufacturing a fuel tank that includes a flange according to Claim 7 for mounting at least one accessory, wherein the following steps are carried out, in the

order indicated:

- a) a seal is placed in a groove cut out around the periphery of the flange and facing the wall of a shell, around the perimeter of an opening cut into the latter;
 - b) the flange is positioned over the opening, so that the seal bears all around the perimeter of the opening and so that the opening passes through the threaded part of the flange;
 - c) a ring is screwed onto the threaded part until abutment, against the outer wall of the shell, of the surface of the flange hugging the groove; and
 - d) the shell bearing the flange is welded to at least one other shell so as to obtain a tank.
11. (New) The combination according to claim 5, wherein the hollow body has a wall with an opening which is sealed closed by the flange.
12. (New) The combination according to claim 11, wherein a compressible seal is mounted between the flange and the hollow body wall near the opening, a ring mounted to the hollow body wall in threaded engagement with the flange thread, and impermeability to gases and liquids being provided by tightly screwing the ring onto the thread of the flange to hold the seal in a compressed state.
13. (New) The flange according to claim 1, in combination with a hollow body having a wall, an opening through the wall, and the flange closing off the opening in a sealed manner.
14. (New) The combination according to claim 13, wherein a compressible seal is mounted between the flange and the hollow body wall near the opening, a ring mounted to the hollow body wall in threaded engagement with the flange thread, and impermeability to gases and liquids being provided by tightly screwing the ring onto the thread of the flange to hold the seal in a compressed state.